

MINUTES OF THE AFRICAN STUDIES CONTINUANCE COMMITTEE, HELD ON FRIDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 29th AT 10 a.m.

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PRESENT: W. Akin, S. Alvi, R. Coyte, H. Habib (Chairman), S. Hlophe,  
J. Kieran, M. Muharuma, J. Mwasia.

1. The minutes of September 25th 1970 #13 was changed to read "The majority of members agreed that they wish to continue the Centre for African Studies in some form. Dr. Alvi pointed out that a distinction should be made between Centre and program."

2. Dr. Alvi moved that the minutes of the meeting of September 25th 1970 be accepted. Seconded by Professor Coyte. Motion carried unanimously.

3. The proposals for the African Studies program by Dr. Alvi and Dr. Kieran were distributed to the members for discussion.

4. Mr. Mwasia gave his proposal as follows: The Centre would remain as an academic body at very little cost to the College. It should not be run as a "one-man show", rather it would have a committee at the head, thus making it more likely to succeed. The students involved feel departments will work to the maximum for the well being of the students, without really altering the framework.

5. The opinion was expressed that the Centre has failed in the past and will fail in the future if it is not changed. Another member felt that the Centre was not a complete failure. It is not specially for those who are academically interested. The Centre is involved with CUSO; it organized an African Asian Conference; the Journal of African Studies was published by Dr. Savage; over the past few years courses have been offered in Political Science, History, Sociology (Prof. Henry) and Swahili; the Centre is known across Canada; the library is possibly the best in Canada.

6. Cross Appointments & Proposed solutions:

- a) Cross appointments do not work, they failed totally
- b) Members of departments teaching African courses should have their first responsibility to their own department. Conflicts occur when dealing with both the African committee and their departments.
- c) Each department has the authority to veto when it affects its own discipline.
- d) the terms of reference should read: if a professor is going to teach a course on Africa, there should be consultation with the committee and the department itself has the final word. Departments carry the full salary costs.
- e) appointments are to be made by the individual departments in consultation with the members of the department with no pressure from the Standing Committee.
- f) the sovereignty of the department is weakened with cross-appointments.

6. continued

- g) the Standing Committee could approach departments as to who would be interested in teaching in the African area, but it would be up to the department whether it would participate or not. African Studies would rely on the good will of the departments.
7. The Chairman felt that the committee had established two crucial points which should be discussed further and voted upon:
- a) all appointments should be made exclusively by the departments
  - b) a Standing Committee should be established
8. Cross listing - courses could be cross listed with their own department and African Studies and the Standing Committee could regulate the program.
9. Standing Committee proposals:
- a) composed of representatives from Political Science, History, Sociology, Economics, Interdisciplinary Studies and students. The committee would choose its own chairman.
  - b) the committee should include the professors who are giving the courses.
  - c) chairmen or representatives (professors teaching the courses) should be represented
  - d) the Dean of Arts and Academic Vice-President, to whom the Centre is responsible, should be present or represented.
  - e) the committee should be of a flexible size.
10. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 30th at 1 p.m. in room VS 6.

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